

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims supercedes all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A method for manufacturing a semiconductor device comprising a metal oxide film formed on a semiconductor substrate using a chemical vapor deposition method, said method comprising:

a dual-stage deposition step comprising a first stage for introducing both a material gas containing a specified metal and an oxidizing gas into a reactor in which said semiconductor substrate is placed and a second stage for subsequently introducing [[an]] a second oxidizing gas into said reactor;[[, and]]

wherein said oxidizing gas at said first stage is introduced in such a manner as to be less than a flow rate of said second oxidizing gas introduced at said second stage;

wherein said metal oxide film as an oxide of said specified metal is formed on said semiconductor substrate, by repeating said dual-stage deposition step two or more times; and

a deposition temperature of said metal oxide film is set in such a temperature range that a reaction of said material gas is non-self-limited in one cycle of said dual-stage deposition step.

2. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein introduction of said material gas is stopped at said second stage.

3. (currently amended): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein

~~said oxidizing gas to be introduced at said first stage and said second oxidizing gas introduced at said second stage are the same type of gas. is less than the flow rate of said oxidizing gas to be introduced at said second stage.~~

4. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein said material gas contains oxygen, whereby said specified metal is oxidized, even by only said material gas.

5. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein said dual-stage deposition step is repeated two to ten times.

6. (currently amended): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein in the repetition of said dual-stage deposition step, ~~said an~~ oxidizing gas is introduced as a preliminary step before the primary dual-stage deposition step is started.

7. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein in the repetition of said dual-stage deposition step, said second stage in the final dual-stage deposition step is omitted.

8. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein tantalum, hafnium, or zirconium is used as said specified metal.

9. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 8, wherein when using said tantalum as said specified metal, tantalum penta-ethoxide is used as said material gas.

10. (currently amended): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein ~~as said oxidizing gas and said second oxidizing gas, such a gas is used as to~~ contain oxygen, ozone, water, nitrogen oxide, or an oxygen radical.

11. (currently amended): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 1, wherein duration of said first stage or said second stage is set to be longer than a mean residence time, in said reactor, of said material gas introduced at said first stage or said second oxidizing gas introduced at said second stage, respectively.

12. (currently amended): A method for manufacturing a semiconductor device comprising a capacitor having a lower electrode, an upper electrode and a capacitive insulating film between said lower electrode and said upper electrode on a semiconductor substrate, wherein said capacitive insulating film is formed on said lower electrode over said semiconductor substrate using a chemical vapor deposition method, said method comprising:

a lower electrode forming step of forming said lower electrode on said semiconductor,
a dual-stage deposition step comprising a first stage for introducing both a material gas containing a specified metal and an oxidizing gas into a reactor in which said semiconductor substrate is placed and a second stage for subsequently introducing [[an]] a second oxidizing gas into said reactor;[, and]

wherein said oxidizing gas at said first stage is introduced in such a manner as to be less than a flow rate of said second oxidizing gas introduced at said second stage;

wherein a metal oxide film as an oxide of said specified metal is formed on said lower electrode over said semiconductor substrate, by repeating said dual-stage deposition step two or more times, hereby forming said capacitive insulating film; and

a deposition temperature of said metal oxide film is set in such a temperature range that a reaction of said material gas is non-self-limited in one cycle of said dual-stage deposition step;
and

an upper electrode forming step of forming said upper electrode on said capacitive insulating film.

13. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 12, wherein introduction of said material gas is stopped at said second stage.

14. (currently amended): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 12, wherein

~~said oxidizing gas to be introduced at said first stage and said second oxidizing gas introduced at said second stage are the same type of gas. is less than the flow rate of said oxidizing gas to be introduced at said second stage.~~

15. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 12, wherein said material gas contains oxygen, whereby said specified metal is oxidized, even by only said material gas.

16. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 12, wherein said dual-stage deposition step is repeated two to ten times.

17. (currently amended): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 12, wherein in the repetition of said dual-stage deposition step, ~~said an~~ oxidizing gas is introduced as a preliminary step before the primary dual-stage deposition step is started.

18. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 12, wherein in the repetition of said dual-stage deposition step, said second stage in the final dual-stage deposition step is omitted.

19. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 12, wherein tantalum, hafnium, or zirconium is used as said specified metal.

20. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 19, wherein when using said tantalum as said specified metal, tantalum penta-ethoxide is used as said material gas.

21. (currently amended): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 12, wherein ~~as said oxidizing gas and said second oxidizing gas, such a gas is used as to contain oxygen, ozone, water, nitrogen oxide, or an oxygen radical.~~

22. (currently amended): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 12, wherein duration of said first stage or said second stage is set to be longer than a mean residence time, in said reactor, of said material gas introduced at said first stage or ~~said second oxidizing gas introduced at said second stage,~~ respectively.

23. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 12, wherein a surface shape of said lower electrode of said capacitor is formed as a three-dimensional structure.

24. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 23, wherein said surface shape of said lower electrode is formed as a hemispherical silicon grain.

25. (currently amended): A method for manufacturing a semiconductor device comprising a metal oxide film formed on a semiconductor substrate using a chemical vapor deposition method, said method comprising:

a dual-stage deposition step comprising a first stage for introducing both a material gas containing a specified metal and an oxidizing gas into a reactor, in which said semiconductor substrate is placed, to form said metal oxide film as an oxide of said specified metal on said semiconductor substrate,

and a second stage for decreasing a flow rate of said material gas so as to be below the flow rate thereof at said first stage, and

said second stage for introducing an a second oxidizing gas into said reactor; to expose a surface of said metal oxide film to said oxidizing gas, and

wherein said oxidizing gas at said first stage is introduced in such a manner as to be less than a flow rate of said second oxidizing gas introduced at said second stage;

wherein said metal oxide film having a desired thickness is formed on said semiconductor substrate, by repeating said dual-stage deposition step two or more times; and

a deposition temperature of said metal oxide film is set in such a temperature range that a reaction of said material gas is non-self-limited in one cycle of said dual-stage deposition step.

26. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 25, wherein introduction of said material gas is stopped at said second stage.

27. (currently amended): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 25, wherein

 said oxidizing gas ~~to be~~ introduced at said first stage and said second oxidizing gas introduced at said second stage are the same type of gas. ~~is less than the flow rate of said oxidizing gas to be introduced at said second stage.~~

28. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 25, wherein said material gas contains oxygen, whereby said specified metal is oxidized, even by only said material gas.

29. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 25, wherein said dual-stage deposition step is repeated two to ten times.

30. (currently amended): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 25, wherein in the repetition of said dual-stage deposition step, said an oxidizing gas is introduced as a preliminary step before the primary dual-stage deposition step is started.

31. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 25, wherein in the repetition of said dual-stage deposition step, said second stage in the final dual-stage deposition step is omitted.

32. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 25, wherein tantalum, hafnium, or zirconium is used as said specified metal.

33. (original): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 32, wherein when using said tantalum as said specified metal, tantalum penta-ethoxide is used as said material gas.

34. (currently amended): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 25, wherein ~~as~~ said oxidizing gas and said second oxidizing gas, such a gas is used as to contain oxygen, ozone, water, nitrogen oxide, or an oxygen radical.

35. (currently amended): The method for manufacturing the semiconductor device according to claim 26, wherein duration of said first stage or said second stage is set to be longer than a mean residence time, in said reactor, of said material gas introduced at said first stage or said second oxidizing gas introduced at said second stage, respectively.